

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 15-17 are allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the best prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the claimed device having a second conductivity type barrier region formed in the intermediate region and in contact with a dense portion.

Claims 20-27 are allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: the best prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the IGBT of claim 20, specifically having a plurality of barrier regions, each comprising a semiconductor region of the second conductivity type.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to BENJAMIN P. SANDVIK whose telephone number is (571)272-8446. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sue Purvis can be reached on 571-272-1236. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Ben P Sandvik/
Examiner, Art Unit 2826